

Acklin & Associates

10718 BRAZOS VALLEY LN.
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72212-3614
501-227-0217

August 15, 2019

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I respectfully submit the following comments in response to the July 9, 2019, FCC released of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) (FCC 19-58) proposing to make the Category Two budget approach permanent, and also seeks comment on the sufficiency of the per-student budget multiplier set in 2015 at \$150 per student and annually indexed to inflation.

I have found the multiplier of \$150.00 per student, annually indexed to inflation to be adequate in most situations. However, many low-income schools rely heavily on these funds, to make Category Two purchases. It is extremely important these funds continue to be provided on a permanent basis.

The FCC also asked for comment on whether or not the current five-year budget floor of \$9,200 for small schools is sufficient, and if the floor is raised to \$25,000 or higher, will it incentivize more small schools to participate in the E-rate program.

The current five-year budget floor of \$9,200.00 for small schools is **insufficient** and should be increased. A \$25,000.00 or higher floor would incentivize small schools to participate. I also recommend the discount level for year one, of a five-year budget be increased to 95% and then reduce to 85% for preceding years, for low-income schools. This would provide adequate funding for first year participants who tend to make major hardware purchases the first year.

I hope you chose to continue this vital program for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenny Acklin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenny Acklin